238

(R)

Europe, NEC.

March 25, 1952

G - Mr. Matthews

Attached is a suggested alternative position which could be taken in the Congressional hearings on the MSA at such time as the Middle East Command is discussed. It is an alternative to the recommendation on pages 3 and 4 of the proposed memorandum to the President.

John H. Ferguson

cc:
NEA - Mr. G. Lewis Jones
BNA - Mr. Andrew Foster
L - Mr. Adrian Fisher
NEA - Mr. Alexander Dorpit
H - Mr. Ben Brown
G - Mr. Nolting

This document released to public per VE NOTES NEA
6/28/78 720115

S/P:JHFerguson:sg

CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY WOLFE DATE 6/1/82
RDS or XDS EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

Alternative Recommendation for the Position
to be used in the Congressional Hearings

"The defense of the Middle East is regarded as vital to the Free World. We are particularly concerned with the development of indigenous strength in the area so that the defensive capability of the Middle East can be increased. It is hoped that the U.K., Turkey, France, and the U.S., through the Middle East Command, will be able to establish more effective military liaison with the states of the area for the purpose of developing plans for its defense.

"The United States' contribution to the Middle East Command, when it is established, is expected to consist of the assignment of officers and supporting personnel to the integrated Allied Command Staff. Furthermore, within the limits of funds authorized by Congress, we would propose to further the objectives of the Command by providing some military equipment and training assistance to certain of the countries in the Middle East. To the extent it is within their capability, we would expect these countries to obtain equipment on a reimbursable basis. Reimbursable aid would be supplemented where justified by grant aid.

"We have made no commitment to supply forces to the Command, and we have made it clear to the other sponsoring powers that our participation in the Command does not imply the assumption of responsibility for the local defense of the area against aggression with United States forces.

"Within

"Within this Government, however, we recognize that the security interests of the United States can be affected by circumstances that may develop in the future. If our security interests later make it desirable to alter the nature of our participation in the Middle East Command and consequently to assume additional responsibilities in the area, we would consult the Congress before taking such a decision."

S/S
3-22-52